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REVOLUTIONARY U.K. THERAPY CURES 'INCURABLE' CANCER

Teenager sees her aggressive form of leukaemia go into remission after undergoing a new form of gene therapy

TREATMENT INVOLVES ALTERING T-CELLS

Thirteen-year-old Alyssa from Leicester was last year diagnosed with T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia that does not respond to conventional treatments. Facing a grim prognosis, she signed up for an experimental therapy and received donated T-cells that have been altered using base-editing to find and kill leukaemic T-cells in her body

GIRL STAYS CANCER-FREE FOR SIX MONTHS

- Just 28 days into the treatment, her cancer showed signs of remission and she has remained cancer-free for six months now
- T-cells are a type of white blood cells that play a key role in immune response. The success of the new therapy offers hope that cancers deemed untreatable today could soon be cured

1st time

A PATIENT HAS BEEN INFUSED WITH BASE-EDITED T-CELLS

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

CBI asks Kavitha to substantiate her statement

Issues notice after seven-and-a-half hour examination over the Delhi liquor scam

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY @Hyderabad

THE Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Sunday issued a notice to Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao's daughter Kalvakuntla Kavitha, asking her to submit documents of her travel between Hyderabad and Delhi, hotel bills and call data related to the accused in the Delhi liquor policy scam, to substantiate her statement given to the agency.

The notice was issued under Section 91 of CrPC after the officials recorded the MLC's statement after a seven-and-a-half-hour examination at her Banjara Hills residence on Sunday.

The CBI team told her that they would fix a date and place for her next examination and convey the same through email.

A six-member CBI team, including a woman officer, reached Kavitha's residence at 11 am and left at 6.30 pm. Sources said four officers from New Delhi and two from the Hyderabad zonal unit cross-examined her over the alleged irregularities in the Delhi excise policy.

A senior Supreme Court lawyer was also present during the examination held on the ground floor office of her residence.

Keeps KCR in the loop

Kavitha visited Pragathi Bhavan, the CM's official residence along with a Supreme Court advocate in the evening. There she briefed her father K Chandrasekhar Rao on what transpired during the CBI examination

The legislator was summoned as a witness in the case under Section 160 of CrPC while the statement was recorded under Section 161.

Sources said the CBI officials asked Kavitha regarding her links with the persons arrested in the case — Boinpally Abhishek Rao, Sharath Chandra Reddy and Amit Arora. The sleuths also reportedly examined her about her links to Robin Distributions director Arun Ramchandran Pillai, who is also one of the accused and has been named in the first information report by the CBI.

Additionally, the officials asked her about her alleged participation in meetings with policy-makers, traders and mediators, who are suspects in the case. They also sought to know about the alleged destruction of mobile phones by Kavitha, as was mentioned in Arora's remand report filed by the Enforcement Directorate, said sources.

Officials examined her about her communication with Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia regarding the excise policy, said sources, adding that they also asked if she sought from him any concessions for the alleged 'South Lobby' in the scam.

Sukhu sworn in as Himachal CM, plays down feud

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

CONGRESS leader Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu was on Sunday sworn in as the 15th Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh.

He and his deputy Mukesh Agnihotri were administered the oath of office and secrecy by Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar during a grand ceremony in historic Shimla Ridge in the presence of Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, AICC general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, and former Congress president Rahul Gandhi.

Sukhu's family, including his 85-year-old mother, wife and daughters were present at the ceremony.

Only Sukhu and Agnihotri took the oath on Sunday with the cabinet expansion likely to take place over the coming days. Sources said efforts are on to end factionalism within the state Congress unit.

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu with Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra after the swearing-in ceremony in Shimla on Sunday | PTI

Meanwhile, Sukhu sought to play down friction within the party. Talking to a television channel, he said, "Lobbying happens, but there is no factionalism in the Congress in Himachal... It was a narrative by the BJP."

Sources said Vikramaditya Singh, the son of former chief minister Virbhadra Singh, who passed away last year, could be accommodated in the cabinet to please the Virbhadra faction.

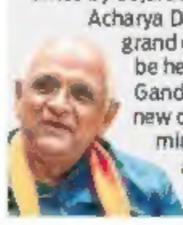
Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Sukhu and assured all possible cooperation from the Centre to further the development of the state. "Congratulations to Shri Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu Ji," Modi said in a tweet. "I assure all possible cooperation from the Centre to further the development of Himachal Pradesh," he said.

Before the start of Sunday's ceremony, Congress leaders paid floral tributes to a portrait of Singh. The state Congress had been under the shadow of Singh for several decades and the swearing in of Sukhu, considered his rival, is seen as a generational shift.

Sukhu is expected to start attending office from Monday.

PATEL TO TAKE OATH TODAY IN PM'S PRESENCE

BJP legislative party leader Bhupendrabhai Patel will take oath as the Chief Minister of Gujarat for a second straight term on Monday in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union home minister Amit Shah, and other dignitaries, BJP leaders said on Sunday. Patel, who will be the 18th CM of Gujarat, will be administered the oath of office by Gujarat governor Acharya Devvrat at a grand ceremony to be held in Gandhinagar. The new council of ministers will also be sworn-in



After 3-month wait, Justice Dipankar Datta elevated to SC

SHRUTI KAKKAR @New Delhi

THE Cente on Sunday elevated Bombay High Court chief justice Dipankar Datta as a judge of the Supreme Court, three months after the Supreme Court Collegium recommended his name for the top court.

The elevation was recommended by the SC Collegium headed by former CJI U U Lalit in its meeting held on September 26. The appointment assumes significance against the backdrop of the top court rapping the Centre for its inordinate delay in appointment of judges to higher judiciary.

Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud will administer the oath office to Justice Datta on Monday. With this, the number of SC judges will go up to 28 against the sanctioned strength of 34. He will have a tenure till February 8, 2030.

The Department of Justice in the Union Law Ministry issued a notification announcing the appointment. Justice Sanjay Vijaykumar Gangapurwala, senior-most judge in the high court after Justice Datta, will be the Acting Chief Justice of the Bombay HC after the incumbent relinquishes his charge. "In exercise of the power conferred under the Constitution of India, Justice Dipankar Datta has been appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court of India. I extend my best wishes to him," Law Minister Kiren Rijiju tweeted.

Justice Dipankar Datta

Justice Datta is the son of ex-Calcutta HC judge Salil Kumar Datta and the brother-in-law of former Supreme Court judge Amitava Roy.

Born in February 1965, he obtained his LLB from the University of Calcutta in 1989. He worked as a junior standing counsel for the West Bengal government from May 16, 2002 to January 16, 2004 and as a counsel for the Union of India since 1998. He was elevated to the bench of the Calcutta HC as a permanent judge on June 22, 2006. He was made Bombay HC chief justice on April 28, 2020.

L-G nod to prosecute key accused in Sulli Deals case

ASHISH SRIVASTAVA @New Delhi

DELHI Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena on Sunday granted sanction to prosecute the main accused in the 'Sulli Deals' case in which Muslim women were "auctioned" online, sources said.

The police need the L-G's sanction to prosecute the accused under CrPC 196.

The accused, 26-year-old Aumkareshwar Thakur, will be prosecuted under Section 196 of the Criminal Procedure Code, which pertains to prosecution for offences against the state and for criminal conspiracy to commit such offence, they added.

Aumkareshwar Thakur

Thakur has been accused of creating the Sulli Deals app and Sulli Deals Twitter handle, which indulged in virtual auctioning of Muslim women with the aim of derogating them and insulting the Muslim community. Several Muslim women were listed for "auction" on the mobile application with photographs sourced without their permission and doctored.

The special cell of Delhi police had registered a case in this regard on July 7, 2021. Thakur was arrested in January this year and booked under Section 153A and 354A of the IPC. Section of 66/67 IT Act was later added to his chargesheet.

THE FINAL FOUR

As France sent England packing in the last quarterfinal on Saturday, the semifinal line-ups are here. A look...

ARGENTINA: They have not had an easy ride, but they are here in the last 4. After 8 years, Lionel Messi once again is one step away from reaching the finals. And as it was the case against Netherlands, they need him at his best come Wednesday

VS

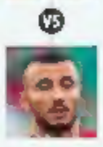
Wednesday, 12.30 AM

CROATIA: The 2018 finalists have stuck to their strengths, taking every game deep. And it has paid off. Their experienced campaigners have stepped up. And the title is becoming to look like a realistic possibility for Luka Modric & Co

FRANCE: With Olivier Giroud at the peak of his form and Kylian Mbappe being the showstealer, they have been the team to beat so far. Barring the one off day against Tunisia, there has been no stopping them. That said, Morocco could be the real test

VS

Thursday, 12.30 AM



MOROCCO: It doesn't matter what happens from here. They have made history - the first African nation to reach the semis. That they have conceded just one goal tells how much they have controlled proceedings everytime they took field | PTI

Mandous destroys crops in Kolar, Tumakuru dists

V VELAYUDHAM & DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Kolar/Tumakuru

CYCLONE Mandous has destroyed ready-to-harvest crops in Kolar, Chikkaballapur and Tumakuru districts, pushing farmers into distress. In particular, tomato and ragi crops have been affected the most and there is now a threat of prices of these commodities going up.

Only small amounts of sweet corn and tomato have been harvested and sent to markets, farmers said. As the ragi crop in vast swathes of land has been destroyed, dairy farmers too are likely to be affected as ragi stalks are used as fodder for cattle throughout the year.

The Kolar APMC, which is the second biggest market for tomatoes in Asia, received only 1,866 quintals of tomato on Sunday, while on any normal day it gets upwards of 10,000 quintals. But the price remained at a low of Rs 360 per 15kg crate. P5

The sweet corn crop damaged due to rain on farmer Murali's land in Srinivaspura

NO COLD STORAGE FOR ONIONS IN GADAG

Despite being the biggest onion producer in North Karnataka, Gadag lacks efficient cold storage facilities. The district's Agriculture Market Produce Committee had begun constructing two cold storage units, which are yet to be completed. As a result, farmers are struggling to store the crop amidst incessant rain, and have accordingly demanded the authorities to address the issue at the earliest. In Gadag district, onion is grown in over 5 lakh hectares of land. P5

B'luru to host 1st G20 meet of Finance Track

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE first G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies (FCBD) meeting, which has been hosted by the Union Finance Ministry and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), will be held in Bengaluru for three days from December 13. The first Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting will also be held concurrently.

The meetings are expected to mark the start of discussions on the finance track agenda under the Indian G20 presidency. "The discussions will include reorienting international financial institutions to meet the shared global challenges of the 21st century, financing cities of tomorrow, managing global debt vulnerabilities, advancing financial inclusion and productivity gains, financing for climate action and SDGs, a globally coordinated approach to unbacked crypto assets and advancing the international taxation agenda," pointed out a statement from the Finance Ministry.

On the sidelines of the meeting, a panel discussion will be held on 'Strengthening multilateral development banks to address shared Global challenges of the 21st Century'. A seminar on the 'Role of Central Banks in Green Financing' too has been organised. Around 40 meetings of the Finance Track will be held in several locations in India, which include meetings of G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, the release said.

HOSPITAL ON WHEELS

Isolated Arunachal villagers see doctor for 1st time

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

IT was virtually a hospital on wheels that meandered into Gandhigram in the remote Vijaynagar circle of India's easternmost Changlang district in Arunachal Pradesh on Saturday.

The locals were awestruck at the sight of the 12-vehicle convoy. It came carrying 60 medical personnel, including 25 doctors, and equipment to run a health camp. The Vijaynagar circle, located on the Myanmar border, has remained cut off from the rest of the world for decades together due to communication bottlenecks.

Chopper was the only mode of transport. Now, there is a 157 km road from the nearest Miao town to Vijaynagar. It traverses the Namdapha National Park and Tiger Reserve.

District Magistrate Sunny K Singh told this newspaper that it was not just a health camp but a *hospital aapke dwar* (hospital at your doorstep). He said the team carried equipment to do ECG, ultrasound scans, CBC (complete blood count) test, and even conducted some minor surgeries. "The villagers were very happy that so many doctors came together. Some had never availed of healthcare services. In fact, there were some who saw doctors for the first time on Saturday," Singh said.

> **A hospital was taken to the place. The doctors identified 15-20 cataract patients. Some were bed-ridden, so the doctors examined them at their houses**
>
> Sunny K Singh, dist collector

Elderly people being helped by health workers at the camp | EXPRESS

Gandhigram, located about 135 km away from Miao, has just one health sub-centre, manned by a nurse. Only a few locals go there. They are examined by the nurse, who also gives them medicines. The neartest primary health centre is in Vijaynagar, 22 km away, and is manned by just one doctor who may not be available all the time.

The second health camp was organised in Vijaynagar on Sunday. The state government purchased medicines for ₹10 lakh for the two camps.

Haveri govt hosp operates on 185 kg woman, saves her

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @Haveri

A team of doctors from a government hospital in Haveri saved a 48-year-old woman, who weighed 185 kg, by conducting a rare intestinal surgery, after she was refused treatment by several private hospitals saying the procedure was impossible.

The patient, Chandramma from Somalapura, was admitted to a private hospital with breathing problems. The doctors said she needed to undergo a rare surgery, but it was not possible to perform as she was overweight. The family members then shifted her to a government hospital in Haveri, where a four-hour-long surgery was performed yielding good results.

Chandramma's weight had led to breathing issues and also damaged her intestine, parts of which were removed during the procedure.

Dr Niranjan from Ranebennur, who is the surgeon at the Haveri District Hospital, led the team of doctors and saved the woman. "The patient's heartbeat and pulse were low and it was a serious case. Besides obesity, she had high sugar levels and blood pressure. It was a complicated surgery. However, with the efforts of our team, the rare surgery was conducted. The woman is doing good," he said. P5